

## Preface

The therapy of children and adolescents with cancer has become increasingly successful; almost 70% of all those diagnosed now live 5 or more years after diagnosis, and most will never suffer a recurrence of the original cancer. As these survivors of childhood and adolescent cancer mature, they become aware of issues related to the original diagnosis and treatment of which they may have been unaware during the time of active therapy. These include well-known quality-of-adult-life issues, such as normal reproduction, as well as less widely appreciated concerns; for example, the possible occurrence of second malignant tumors.

*The Third International Conference on the Long-Term Complications of Treatment of Children and Adolescents With Cancer* was held in Niagara Falls, NY from June 10 to 11, 1994. The conference included nine invited presentations organized around the themes of the symposium. These encompassed the mutagenic and carcinogenic potential of the agents (radiation therapy and chemotherapy) employed for the treatment of children and adolescents with cancer, and the impact of these threats on the survivor and his or her

offspring. The high quality of the presentations stimulated a lively interchange of data and opinions.

The present issue includes all articles prepared by the invited speakers. The topics covered include radiation-related and drug-related mutagenesis and carcinogenesis, mechanisms of carcinogenesis, and genetic susceptibility to cancer. The comprehensive and the thoughtful articles prepared by the invited speakers provide an excellent review of these areas for all who provide care for long-term survivors of childhood and adolescent cancer.

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Daniel M. Green, MD  
Giulio J. D'Angio, MD